

§ 86.60

consider if the project will include physical components, technology, or techniques that are:

- (1) Newly available; or
- (2) Repurposed in a unique way.
- (b) Examples of the type of innovations we will consider are components, technology, or techniques that:
 - (1) Extend the useful life of the BIG-funded project;
 - (2) Are designed to allow the operator to save costs, decrease maintenance, or improve operation;
 - (3) Are designed to improve BIG-eligible services or amenities;
 - (4) Reduce the carbon footprint of the BIG-funded facility. *Carbon footprint* means the impact of the total set of greenhouse gas emissions;
 - (5) Are used during construction specifically to reduce negative environmental impacts, beyond compliance requirements; or
 - (6) Improve facility resilience.

§ 86.60 What does the Service consider when evaluating a project for demonstrating a commitment to environmental compliance, sustainability, and stewardship?

(a) In evaluating a project under the criterion at § 86.51(c)(3), we consider if the application documents that the facility where the BIG-funded project is located has received official recognition for its voluntary commitment to environmental compliance, sustainability, and stewardship by exceeding regulatory requirements.

(b) The official recognition must be part of a voluntary, established program administered by a Federal or State agency, local governmental agency, Sea Grant or equivalent entity, or a State or Regional marina organization.

(c) The established program must require the facility to use management and operational techniques and practices that will ensure it continues to meet the high standards of the program and must contain a component that requires periodic review.

(d) The facility must have met the criteria required by the established program and received official recognition by the due date of the application.

50 CFR Ch. I (10–1–15 Edition)

§ 86.61 What happens after the Director approves projects for funding?

(a) After the Director approves projects for funding, we notify successful applicants of the:

- (1) Amount of the grant;
- (2) Documents or clarifications required, including those required for compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- (3) Approvals needed and format for processing approvals; and
- (4) Time constraints.

(b) After we receive the required forms and documents, we approve the project and the terms of the grant and obligate the grant in the Federal financial management system.

(c) BIG funds are available for Federal obligation for 3 Federal fiscal years, starting October 1 of the fiscal year that funds become available for award. We do not make a Federal obligation until you meet the grant requirements. Funds not obligated within 3 fiscal years are no longer available.

Subpart F—Grant Administration

§ 86.70 What standards must I follow when constructing a BIG-funded facility?

(a) You must design and build a BIG-funded facility so that each structure meets Federal, State, and local standards.

(b) A Region or a State may require you to have plans reviewed by a subject-matter expert if there are questions as to the safety, structural stability, durability, or other construction concerns for projects that will cost more than \$100,000.

§ 86.71 How much time do I have to complete the work funded by a BIG grant?

(a) We must obligate a grant within 3 Federal fiscal years of the beginning of the Federal fiscal award year.

(b) We will work with you to set a start date within the 3-year period of obligation. We assign a period of performance that is no longer than 3 years from the grant start date.